

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 03240 081823Z

47

ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 IO-14 OIC-04 AEC-11 OMB-01

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6205

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 3240

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR DATA: RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES AND RELATED MATTERS

1. NOW THAT FRG AND UK HAVE AGREED TO ATTEND DOUBLE BILATERALS IN WASHINGTON TO RESOLVE "GREY AREAS" IN ANNEX B OF WG REPORT ON DATA, BALL IS MOMENTARILY IN WASHINGTON COURT ON BROADER DATA ISSUE. AT JUNE 11 SPEC MEETING, HOWEVER, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO INFORM OTHER ALLIES AS TO THE CURRENT STATE OF PLAY ON DATA. WE HAVE CONSULTED BILATERALLY WITH UK AND FRG DELS ON WHAT SHOULD BE SAID ABOUT CURRENT EFFORTS TO RESOLVE GREY AREAS, AND HAVE AGREED THAT EITHER UK OR FRG (PREFERABLY THE LATTER) WILL MAKE SHORT STATEMENT ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

"IN ORDER TO SPEED UP A RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES ON DATA, THE THREE NATIONS WHICH HAVE HERETOFORE PREPARED NATIONAL ESTIMATES ARE PRESENTLY EXAMINING THOSE AREAS MISSING FROM ANNEX B OF THE WG REPORT IN SEPARATE DISCUSSIONS WITH AN AIM TO THEIR CLARIFICATION AND RESOLUTION, THEY WILL PRESENT THE RESULTS OF THIS
SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 03240 081823Z

EXAMINATION TO THE ALLIANCE IN DUE COURSE." ALTHOUGH LONDON 6988 INDICATES THAT FCO MAY BE TAKING A SOFTER LINE ON NECESSITY FOR CONVENING INTELLIGENCE EXPERTS CONFERENCE, IS IS STILL POSSIBLE THAT UK MAY AGAIN COME BACK TO THIS QUESTION DURING

JUNE 11 SPC MEETING. REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS ON WASHINGTON'S POSITION REGARDING AN INTELLIGENCE CONFERENCE IF SUBJECT IS AGAIN RAISED BY UK

2. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT UK AND NETHERLANDS MAY ASK THAT NATO INITIATE A STUDY TO EXAMINE IMPLICATIONS OF USE OF CHANGED FIGURES FOR OVERALL ALLIED NEGOTIATION APPROACH. DUTCH DEL HAS TOLD US INFORMALLY THAT NETHERLANDS DEFENSE MINISTRY IS PARTICULARLY EAGER TO GET WORK STARTED ON THIS SUBJECT IN WG FORUM. WE PERSUADED DUTCH DEL FROM MAKING SUCH A PROPOSAL, ARGUING THAT IT WAS PREMATURE, BUT SUBJECT MAY COME UP AT JUNE 11 SPC MEETING, PARTICULARLY IF UK MAKES A PITCH FOR SUCH A STUDY AS COULD BE INFERRED FROM PARA 4 OF LONDON 6988. WASHINGTON WILL BE AWARE THAT ACTING WG CHAIRMAN (IN HIS CAPACITY AS IMS REP) CIRCULATED INFORMAL HANDOUT AT MAY 30 SPC MEETING WHICH SEEKS TO HIGHLIGHT KEY ISSUES ON USE OF NEW DATA (SEE USNATO 3021). REQUEST WASHINGTON GUIDANCE ON U.S. PREFERENCES FOR HANDLING THIS QUESTION.

3. ON GENERAL SUBJECT OF IMPLICATIONS OF USING NEW DATA, SOME ALLIES MAY RAISE QUESTION OF POTENTIAL CONFLICT BETWEEN THE PROPOSED COMMON CEILING OF 700,000, AND MAXIMUM AGREED ALLIED REDUCTION OF 10 PERCENT WHICH IS SET FORTH IN PARA 12 OF C-M(73)84. USE OF NEW FIGURES WILL REQUIRE THAT ONE OF THE OTHER FIGURES BE MODIFIED. WE NOTE VIENNA 4500, IN WHICH USDEL MBFR (PER PARA 5) RECOMMENDS THAT ALLIES SHOULD RESERVE THEIR POSITION AS TO WHETHER THE INCREASE IN ALLIED GROUND FORCE STRENGTH OVER THE 777,000 FIGURE WOULD BE APPLIED SO AS TO INCREASE ALLIED REDUCTIONS OR TO RAISE THE LEVEL OF THE COMMON CEILING BY THE SAME AMOUNT. WE THINK IT PROBABLE THAT ALLIES WILL NOT ACCEPT THIS APPROACH AND WILL WISH TO HAVE A CLEAR READING ON WHETHER THE U.S. WISHES TO HOLD TO A MAXIMUM 10 PERCENT REDUCTION (THEREBY ALLOWING THE COMMON CEILING TO RISE) OR WHETHER A 700,000 COMMON CEILING SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS THE DETERMINING CRITERION. APPRECIATE WASHINGTON VIEWS.
RUMSFELD.

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